Myth/Short Story Assignment

The focus of this unit has been myths and short stories. Reading these texts has allowed us to explore narrative elements such as character, plot, conflict and setting. Here is your opportunity to show how well you have understood these concepts while using your imagination. You will be responsible for creating your own myth or short story that will include the myth/short story elements we have explored in this unit. Your myth or short story should be written according to the following guidelines:

1. Your myth or short story must fit into the “heroism” theme
2. Your story must clearly contain the five components of plot discussed in class (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution).
3. Your myth or story must include at least one round, dynamic character and at least one flat, static character
4. Your work should also include one illustration that connects to the plot, character or setting
5. Your final copy must be word processed double spaced or neatly written double spaced
6. There will be an oral component to this assignment in which you will have to present the main elements of your myth or short story to the class.

There will be several worksheets you will need to complete to keep you on track. You will also be given time to work in class and get an opportunity to assess your peers’ work before submitting your final copy. Lastly have fun with this assignment. Although you have guidelines, be creative and use your imagination!

Let’s begin!

1. If you are writing a myth chose if it will be a creation myth, a myth of explanation or a supernatural myth. If you are writing a short story decide if it is going to be a suspense, horror, adventure, mystery or fantasy.
2. What is going to be the main idea of your myth or story?
3. Brainstorm a list of three protagonists for your myth or story.
4. For each protagonist include a minor/supporting character(s).
5. Next, come up with an antagonist – a person, force, event, animal, etc that will try to prevent your antagonist from reaching their goal. List three potential antagonists.

Developing conflict:

Stories are often centred around a conflict. Use the following chart(s) to develop your internal and/or external conflicts in detail.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Internal Conflict | Description of conflict/circumstances, etc. | |
|  |  | |
| External Conflict(s) | With who/what | Description of conflict/circumstances, etc. |
|  |  |  |

Next…Choose one of the conflicts to be your story’s main conflict.  
Choose the protagonist/antagonist combination from your brainstorming list that best suits the conflict that you want to develop.

* Using the charts, create a character sketch for your protagonist and *at least one* minor character. Be sure to include details about physical description, personality, and their purpose in the story. For your protagonist, describe the change they will undergo to make them a dynamic character

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Protagonist’s name | Physical Description | Personality | Dynamic Change |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Minor Character | Physical Description | Personality | Purpose in the story |
|  |  |  |  |

Now you are ready to start writing!

1. Let us begin with writing the introduction to our myth or short story. Your introduction should be 2-3 paragraphs. Be sure to include the following in your introduction:
   1. Establish your setting
   2. Establish the mood/atmosphere
   3. Introduce characters
   4. Provide necessary antecedent action
   5. End with the initial incident

This section is due:

Chart out your Plot…

1. Using the charts, plot out the rising action, climax, and falling action and resolution for your myth/story. **Clearly explain how the event you chose is the climax, as well as what type of conclusion your story will demonstrate.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rising Action |  |
| Climax |  |
| Falling Action |  |
| Resolution |  |

Now that you have organized your story into each of the five components of a narrative story, you are ready to take all of these points and put them together to create your final masterpiece.  
  
Your story needs to be ***at least two pages*** double-spaced in twelve point font. All of your charts need to be completed and checked my **before** you begin typing/writing your story.

Due Date:

**Important!!!** When handing in your final copy you must include the following:

* 1. Title page
  2. Final Copy
  3. Rough draft
  4. Peer Evaluation
  5. Rough notes and charts